Updated resource indices for each super-area compared with the threshold levels below which Exceptional Circumstances are invoked

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Updated trap and hoopnet GLM CPUE data have recently been provided by J. Glazer (pers. commn). The FIMS survey was carried out only in super-area 8+ for this most recent season. Due to the lack of FIMS data for the 2015[1] season (for super-areas other than 8+), two scenarios are considered:

- FIMS(2015)=0 (an extreme assumption which serves as a lower bound)
- FIMS(2015)=FIMS(2014)

Figures 1-5 report the combined resource indices available for each super-area, the combined index that is calculated across the different indices, and finally the $J_{A,Y}$ values (a three year average) which are used to determine whether Exceptional Circumstances (ECs) have been triggered or not (for both FIMS scenarios – except for super-area 8+ where the FIMS from the 2015 season survey is used). On each figure, the bottom plot shows a solid red horizontal line indicating the "threshold" value, below which Exceptional Circumstances would be invoked.

Table 1 provides the various $J_{A,Y}$ values for each area (and FIMS scenario where appropriate), with the critical threshold values indicated as well. The combined index for the most recent (2015) season is also provided.

Figures 1, 2 and 3 show respectively that super-areas 1+2, 3+4, and 5+6 are well clear of their Exceptional Circumstances thresholds, but with 3+4 and 5+6 on the decline.

Super-area 7 has continued its recent increase, and now lies just on (FIMS 2015=0) or above (FIMS 2015=FIMS 2014) the threshold (Figure 4).

Super-area 8+ (Figure 5) has shown a continued decline over recent years, with the current value only just above the threshold.

In summary, while currently every super-area is (or may reasonably be assumed to be) above its Exceptional Circumstances threshold, this is marginal for 7 and for 8+. Looking forward to 2017 season, when the combined index values for 2013 will no longer enter into the $J_{A,Y}$ computation, it is evident that unless markedly high index values result for the 2016 season, both 3+4 and 8+ will fall clearly below their Exceptional Circumstances threshold.

[1] The split season is referenced by the first year i.e. 2015 refers to the 2015/2016 season

Table 1: The 3-year averaged $J_{A,Y}$ values for each area (and FIMS scenario where appropriate), with the critical threshold values indicated as well. The combined index for the most recent (2015) season is also provided.

Area	FIMS 2015 assumption	Threshold value	$J_{A,Y}$ (updated 3-year average)	Combined index for 2015 only
A1+2	N/A	0.60	1.002	1.013
A3+4	FIMS 2015=FIMS 2014	0.90	1.457	0.532
	FIMS 2015=0	0.90	1.198	0.296
A5+6	FIMS 2015=FIMS 2014	0.70	0.861	0.988
	FIMS 2015=0	0.70	0.783	0.744
A7	FIMS 2015=FIMS 2014	0.80	0.845	0.968
	FIMS 2015=0	0.80	0.797	0.857
A8+	Actual data	0.70	0.711	0.637

Figure 1: Super-area 1+2 indices. The flat solid line shows the EC threshold level.

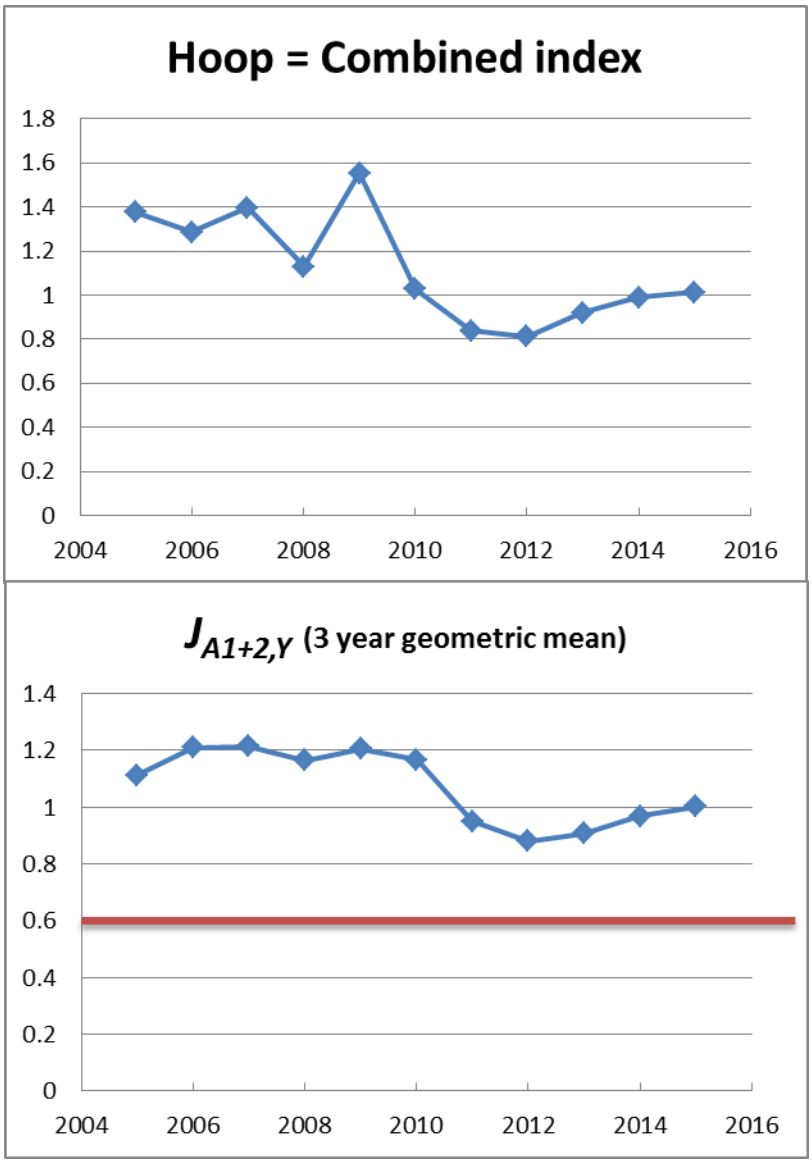

Figure 2: Super-area 3+4 indices. The flat solid line shows the EC threshold level.

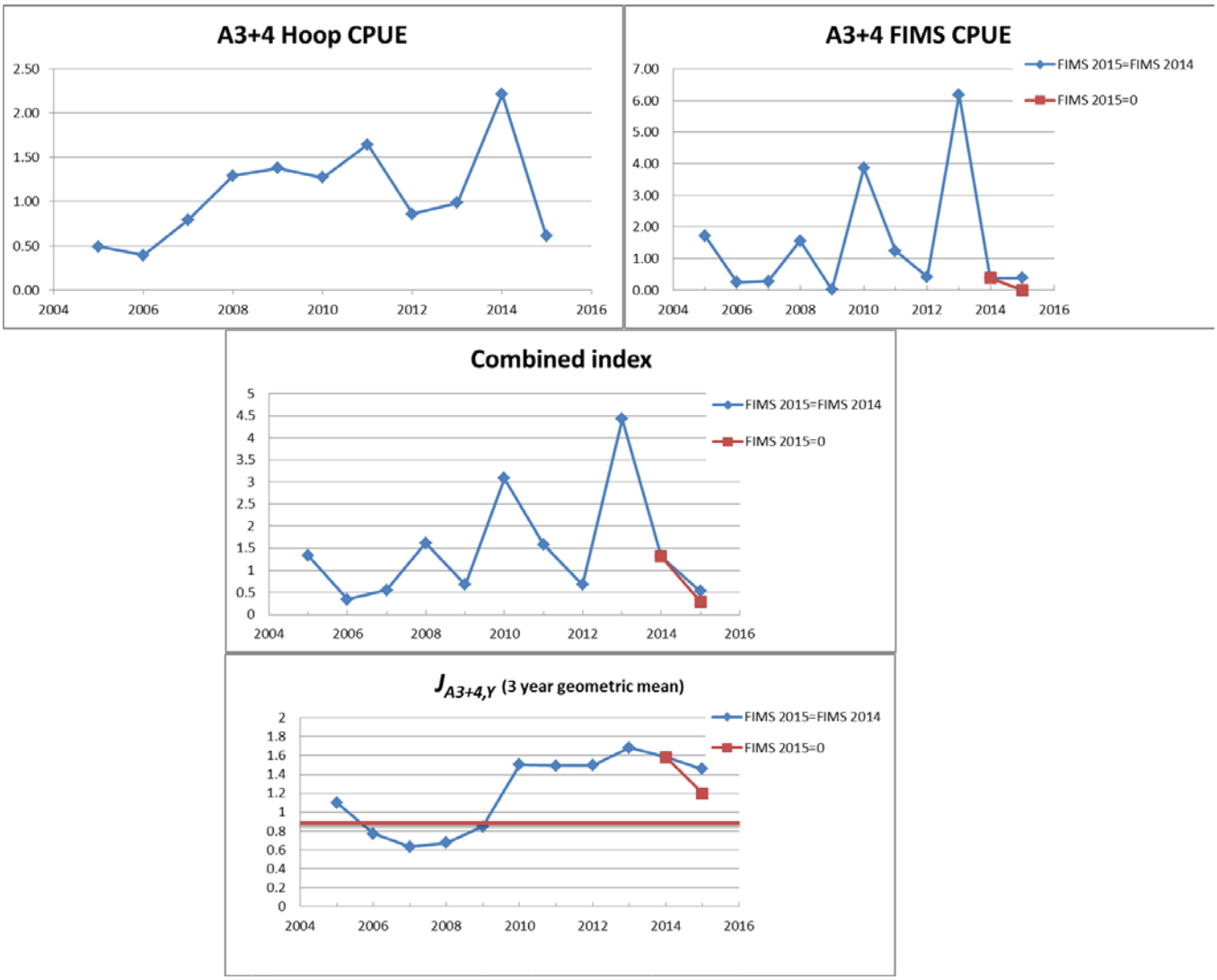

Figure 3: Super-area 5+6 indices. The flat solid line shows the EC threshold level.

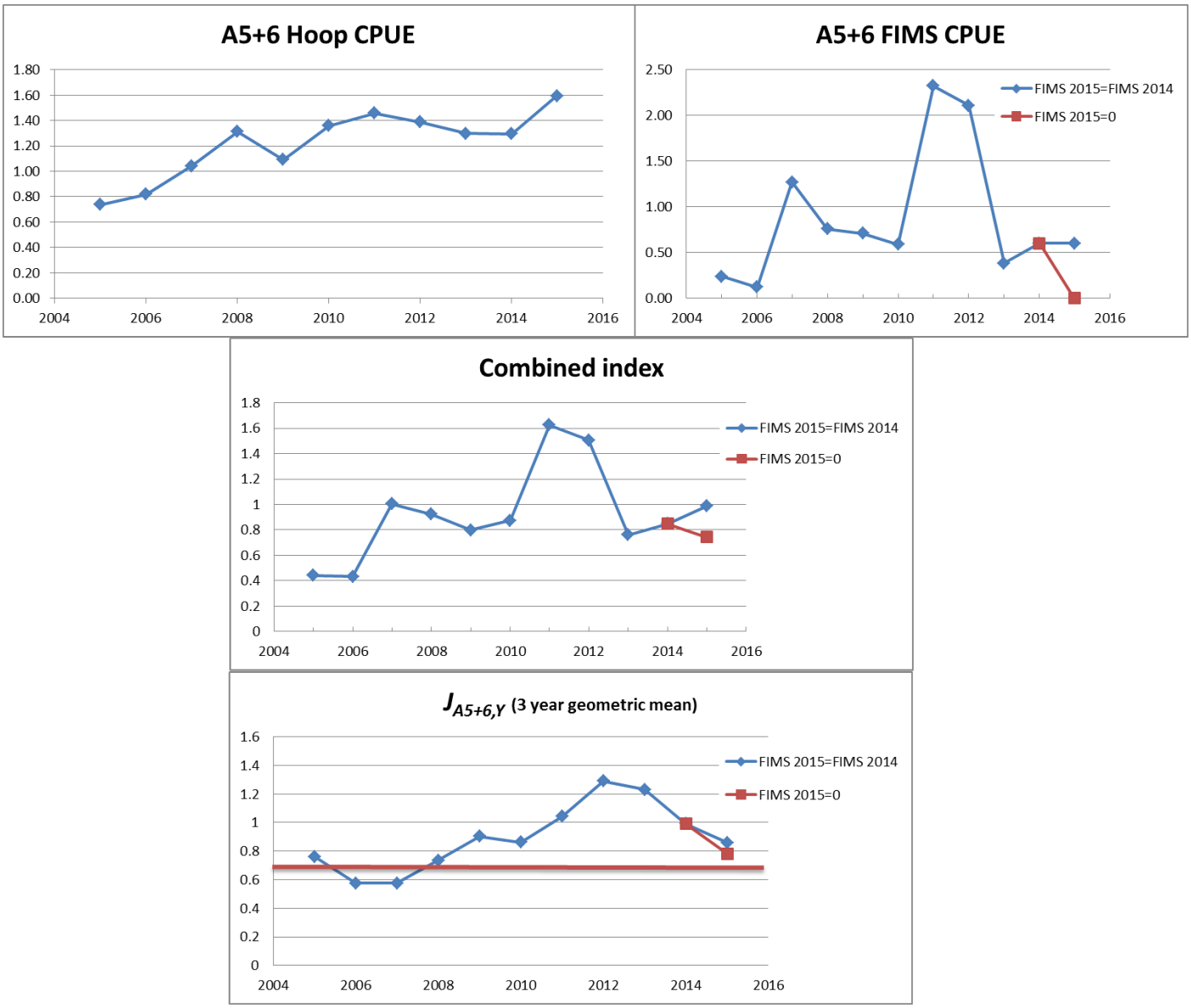

Figure 4: Super-area 7 indices. The flat solid line shows the EC threshold level.

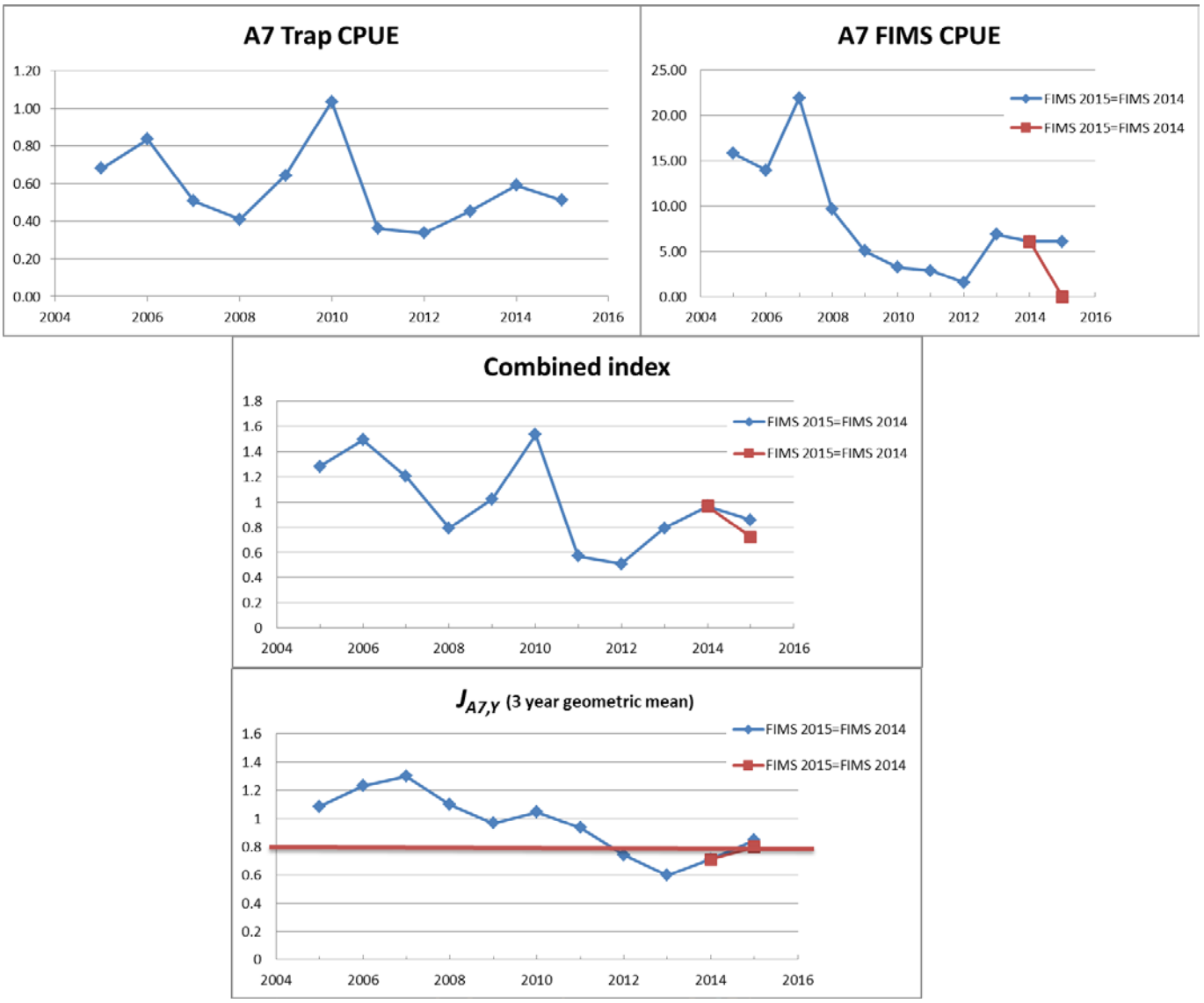

Figure 5: Super-area 8+ indices. The flat solid line shows the EC threshold level.